

Review of Scrutiny in Oldham

“To ensure scrutiny has a clear role and focus within the organisation, that Oldham has an influential scrutiny function which is held in high regard by its many stakeholders and which achieves measurable service improvements and adds value for the people of Oldham through a member led process of examination and review”

To achieve this Scrutiny will follow the nationally agreed ‘Four Principles of Good Scrutiny’;

1. Provide ‘critical friend’ challenge to decision makers, through holding them to account for decisions made, engaging in policy review and policy development;
2. Promote Scrutiny as a means by which the voice and concerns of the public can be heard;
3. Ensure Scrutiny is carried out by ‘independent minded’ Board members;
4. Improve public services by ensuring reviews of policy and service performance are focused.

To achieve this we will ensure:

- Parity of esteem, the scrutiny function of the council has the same importance in the governance system as executive decision-making activities.
- The offer of senior officer support and providing senior officer leads
- We are Listening to local people and making sure their views are heard by decision makers
- Looking at decisions, policies or issues that affect local people
- Authentic cross-party working
- Working and co-operating with Statutory and non-Statutory partners
- Conclusions and recommendations that are evidence based
- Engagement and training of elected members

To Align with the Council’s Priorities the following Scrutiny Boards are to be introduced:

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Board will look at the how the Council fulfils its strategic priority of A great start and skills for life:

This strategic outcome aims to:

- increasing the number of quality school and college places for Oldham’s young people,
- expanding youth activities outside of school,
- improving post-16 education and training, so everyone has options to help them increase their skills and knowledge.

Areas covered by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Board in scrutinising how the Council meets this strategic outcome could include:

- Educational achievement
- School performance

- Healthy lifestyles
- Youth service
- Looked after children
- Early Help
- Children’s Social Care
- Child Protection
- School Attendance and Exclusions
- School leavers’ progression to further education and training
- Healthy schools
- Take-up of sporting and cultural opportunities
- Increased involvement of young people in developing services
- Education, employment and training for care leavers
- Children’s Centres
- Young people’s fear of crime
- Youth Offending
- Freedom from poverty
- Youth Justice Plan;
- Children’s and Young People Strategic Plan;
- HE provision including Oldham College and UCO

The Board will also include Co-opted Members Voting and representation from THE Youth Council.

Co-opted Members (Voting):

- Roman Catholic representative
- Church of England representative
- Parent Governor representative (Primary)
- Parent Governor representative (Special)
- Parent Governor representative (Secondary)

Co-opted Members non voting

- Teacher representatives
- Early Years Development and Childcare representative
- Youth Work representative

Board	Council Functions	Officer oversight Exec Functions
Children Young People and Families Board 5 meetings per Municipal Year	Managing Director of Children Young People	Managing Director of Children Young People Director of Education, Skills & Early Years Director of Children’s Social Care Director of Economy

The Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board will look at the how the Council fulfils its strategic priority of Healthy, safe and well supported residents Looking after our most vulnerable residents, keeping people safe and healthy are crucial responsibilities of any local authority focusing on services for adults and public health services to monitor progress towards improving health, lifestyles and quality of care across the Borough; and providing oversight of integration and partnership working within and between the council and health bodies. The Board will also oversee the

active lifestyle related functions and activity across the Borough. The Board will review and scrutinise the commissioning and delivery of local health and social care services in Oldham to ensure reduced health inequalities, access to services and the best outcomes for local people.

The Board will discharge its statutory duties to:

- the review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the Council’s area;
- the making of reports and recommendations to relevant NHS bodies and health service providers;
- responding to proposals and consultations from NHS bodies in respect of substantial variations in service provision and any other major consultation exercises;
- referral of comments and recommendations on proposals referred to the Committee by a relevant NHS body or relevant service provider to the Secretary of State if considered necessary; and
- all matters relating to Healthwatch.

Areas covered by the Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board in scrutinising how the Council meets this strategic outcome could include:

- Adult Social Care
- Adult Safeguarding
- Public Health
- Integrated Care
- All Health related matters including Children’s Health
- Scrutiny of NHS and NHS providers including NCA
- S.75 arrangements
- GP services
- Health and Wellbeing Board, including the development, implementation, review and monitoring of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- Adult and Health Services Budget Outturn
- Review of provision of Health Services
- Leisure Offer
- Place Based Working
- arrangements made by the authority for public health, health promotion, health improvement and for addressing health inequalities

Board	External	Council Functions	Officer Oversight Exec Functions
Adults Social Care and Health Board	Relevant NHS bodies or health service providers including:-NHS England	None	Director of Adults Social Care (DASS) Director of Public Health

5 meetings per Municipal Year	Integrated Care Partnership Place Lead - Oldham NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Locality Board Local NHS Trusts and other NHS service providers Healthwatch		Assistant Director Youth, Leisure and Communities
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The Place, Economic Growth and Environment Board will look at how the Council fulfils 3 strategic priorities and is also responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions which may affect the Borough of Oldham and to exercise the functions of a crime and disorder committee including the following:

- a) To review or scrutinise the exercise of crime and disorder functions by responsible authorities and
- b) To review or scrutinise any local crime or disorder matter raised by a Member.

Better jobs and dynamic businesses

The strategic outcomes are:

Providing the infrastructure to make Oldham a great place to spend time, and somewhere to open and grow a successful business.

Investments in the next three years include

- the redevelopment of Spindles, a new performance space and a town centre park,
- support for residents to help them into good jobs through Get Oldham Working,
- increasing the amount the council spends with local companies, to maximise the impact of the Oldham pound.

Quality homes for everyone

The strategic outcomes are:

To work with developers and housing associations to deliver the affordable homes that our residents need, and support renters to defend their rights. Over the next three years we will

- increase the number of high-quality homes that are affordable and meet residents' needs,
- support tenants to fight back against rogue landlords,
- enable improvement to home insulation to help protect residents from rising energy prices.

A clean and green future

The strategic outcomes are:

Responding to the climate emergency and keep Oldham clean and tidy.

- support the borough’s growing green industry, as part of making the borough carbon neutral by 2030,
- improve our green spaces, including Northern Roots,
 - continue our Don’t Trash Oldham campaign, so our residents have neighbourhoods to be proud

Areas covered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board in scrutinising how the Council meets this strategic outcome could include:

- Spindles Development
- Planning
- Housing
- Housing Strategy
- Don’t Trash Oldham Campaign
- Northern Roots
- New Performance Space
- Get Oldham Working
- Town Centre Park
- Local procurement and value for money
- Social
- Solar Farm
- Green energy
- Climate Emergency
- Community Safety
- Crime and Disorder
- Licensing and Gambling Policies (respective 2003 and 2005 Acts);
- Plans and Strategies which together comprise the Local Plan – Core Strategy;
- Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership Strategy;

Board	External	Council Functions	Officer Oversight Exec Functions
Place, Economic Growth and Environment Board 5 meetings per Municipal Year	Risk management authorities (defined by S6 Flood and Water Management Act 2010) Responsible authorities (defined by S5 Crime and Disorder Act 1998)	Executive Director of Place and Economic Growth Head of Planning	Chief Executive Executive Director Place and Economic Growth Director of Environment Director of Economy

The Governance, Strategy and Resources Board role includes the scrutiny of key policy items, the annual budget proposals, proposals with significant service and or budgetary implications, risk and performance. The Board will also scrutinise particular proposals being developed at the Greater Manchester level and by the Council's strategic partners, considering the implications for the Borough and for the Council.

The Board will also monitor and hold to account the performance of service delivery within Oldham Council and of strategic partners etc with particular reference to the Corporate Plan and all other strategic plans and monitor organisational risk.

Areas covered by the Governance, Strategy and Resources Board in scrutinising how the Council meets the required outcomes could include:

- Oldham Plan (sustainable community strategy);
- The Council's Corporate Plan;
- Fair Employment Charter;
- Integrated Commissioning Framework; and
- Pay Policy Statement.
- Performance monitoring including performance reports
- Risk reports – Governance
- Annual Budget Setting
- To scrutinise the financial performance of the Council against the approved budget and efficiency savings identified
- To scrutinise issues identified as requiring improvement by external assessors (with the exception of social care matters) ensuring that there is appropriate statutory representation of co-opted members in respect of education matters.
- In reviewing the performance of Council and other services, to scrutinise plans for improvement where performance is weak and to maintain oversight until performance improves.
- The Scrutiny Board (Governance, Strategy and Resources) is the allocated residual responsibility for any function not otherwise allocated to a Scrutiny Board.

Board	External	Council Functions	Officer Oversight Exec Functions
The Governance, Strategy and Resources Board 5 meetings per Municipal Year		Chief Executive S.151 Officer Monitoring Officer	Chief Executive Deputy Chief Executive Assistant Chief Executive Director of Finance (s.151 Officer) Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)